CIA Sanction Is Hinted In Trial of Gunrunner

MIAMI, May 31 (UPI) — Cuban exile leader Felipe Rivero told a Federal Court hearing today he had made a gun-running trip to Cuba Oct. 10. His attorney suggested it was set up by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Rivero said he and two companions landed by boat on the Cuban coast with a cargo of 50 millimeter machine guns, recoilless rifles and other arms and ammunition.

Defense Attorney Gino Negretti was shut off by an objection from Assistant U.S. Atty. Donald Bierman when he asked a witness if it were not true that on gun-running trips to Cuba "you were provided with the arms by the CIA?"

Judge William O. Mehrtens upheld the objection.

Rivero, 43-year-old head of the Cuban Nationalist Association, has been in jail since May 12, when he was arrested as a suspect in an alleged bombing plot against the Cuban exhibition at Montreal's Expo 67. A bomb went off near the Cuban building yesterday.

Negretti sought to show that Rivero was not an alien parolee, but was instead an illegal entrant to this country since he had left it after once coming here as an exile and reentering without permission. This would make Rivero eligible for bond.

(The judge later denied the bid, the Associated Press reported. The judge said Rivero had not exhausted his administrative remedies before the U.S. Immigration Service.

23rd WEEK!